



Related Medlearn Matters Article #: MM4177

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Related CR #: 4177

Eliminate the Use of Surrogate Unique Physician Identification Numbers (UPINs) on Medicare Claims

Key Words

MM4177, CR4177, UPIN, surrogate, unique, physician, identification, claim

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, suppliers, and providers billing Medicare carriers, including durable medical equipment regional carriers (DMERCs) using surrogate UPINs

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is April 1, 2006.
- The implementation date is April 3, 2006.
- Medicare carriers, including DMERCs, are directed to no longer accept the surrogate UPIN OTH000 to identify ordering or referring physicians on claims submitted by billers, suppliers, physicians, and non-physician practitioners, effective for dates of service April 1, 2006, and later. (Beneficiary submitted claims and mass immunization claims are excluded.)
- Durable medical equipment (DME) suppliers, physicians, non-physician practitioners, and billers must submit the UPIN assigned to the ordering or referring physician.
- Medicare carriers, DMERCs, and FIs will return, as unprocessable, all claims submitted with surrogate UPIN OTH000.

Important Links

The Medlearn Matters article is located at

<http://new.cms.hhs.gov/medlearnmattersarticles/downloads/MM4177.pdf>

That instruction may be viewed at <http://new.cms.hhs.gov/transmittals> on the CMS web site. From that web page, select 2005 transmittals, and search on 4177 as the keyword field. Then click on the transmittal number in the download section.

The UPIN registry can be accessed at <http://www.upinregistry.com>